UnifyCloud
Discover Once, Many Engagements

2020 Partner of the Year Winner
Solution Assessment Award
Microsoft

Healthcare provider identifies critical security capability gaps thanks to UnifyCloud

A data breach is a wake-up call—and in some cases, it can signal that a large-scale strategy change is in order. As one company recovered from an attack on its customer data, it prioritized an increase in security investments and was able to identify gaps in its security capability with the help of their system integrator (SI) partner and UnifyCloud.

A large, US-based Fortune 500 healthcare provider serving more than 2 million policyholders wanted to upgrade and optimize its cybersecurity strategy after a customer data breach. The company's Board of Directors hired a new chief information security officer (CISO) who made the cybersecurity strategy a top priority. The new CISO made significant investments in new security infrastructure, and after two years, the Board requested a detailed assessment of the solution's effectiveness and a report on ROI to date for the investment.

Knowing his strategies were under scrutiny, the CISO needed to quickly quantify, validate, and prove the business case for his security investments. He wanted to not only track the effectiveness of security systems and identify any functional overlap or areas of risk, but also to provide quarterly updates for the Board, with an over-arching goal of delivering cost management while protecting the enterprise.

CloudAtlas analysis and assessment

The company's CISO was referred to UnifyCloud, a Microsoft Gold partner, by a colleague familiar with UnifyCloud's track record on other similar projects. What initially started out as a one-off assessment engagement ultimately grew into a strategic solution partnership due to the company's need to run security scans to track changes and coverage over time without continued assistance.

UnifyCloud worked with the company's IT partner to perform IT Asset Management (ITAM) scans of the company's infrastructure using its CloudAtlas platform to determine the types of assets and resources running in the environment, mapping the identified assets to a capability catalog, and then to a Security Framework. This structured approach enabled the CISO to establish where he had duplicate security capabilities and where he had gaps. This allowed him to end licenses that were redundant, harvest those savings, and reinvest that money into security capabilities to close the gaps.

Using the CloudAtlas cybersecurity capability catalog, the security solutions in place were given a score. This first phase involved assigning 100% credit when an asset was discovered in the IT Infrastructure. In the second phase, the partner conducted interviews to understand how the software was being used and to what extent, whether alerts were being acted upon, and the best practices that should be implemented in terms of tools, configurations, outputs, and actions. This gives a more accurate picture of security protection and the ability to respond to threats.

Using this approach, CloudAtlas analyzed the company's cybersecurity coverage against the industry standard CSC framework. In just minutes, a capability assessment report was generated, enabling the partner to review the security solutions in place, identify gaps in capabilities, and make recommendations based upon the company's needs.

"With the CloudAtlas analysis, we were able perform regular security assessments and generate status reports the CISO could share with leadership and the Board of Directors," said the UnifyCloud partner. "CloudAtlas also tracks security improvements over time, weighing them against the baseline we established to quantify effectiveness of their improvement efforts."

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Results

Identified **top-tier security** control capability of **45%**

Identified **second tier security** control capability of **63%**

Identified **bottom tier security** control capability of **3%**

Reducing risk with optimized security

Being able to easily identify and track the effectiveness and ROI of security investments was transformative for the company. "By eliminating redundancies, tightening gaps in the infrastructure, and highlighting where and how to optimize the security environment, we gave the CISO the insight he needed to both reduce cybersecurity risk, keep overhead in check and secure buy-in from the Board," said the UnifyCloud partner.

Cybersecurity threats are constantly evolving and CloudAtlas is designed to help companies evolve their cybersecurity capabilities apace by assessing vulnerabilities and ensuring the right assets are deployed and being properly utilized. It is impossible to eliminate risk, but this approach gives companies the analysis and insights to assess threats, their likelihood and impact to make informed decisions on how to improve cybersecurity maturity where it makes the most business sense.

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UnifyCloud, recognized as the 2020 Microsoft Worldwide Solution Assessment Partner of the Year, is a global information technology and cloud solutions provider specializing in accelerating digital transformation and managing cybersecurity, compliance, and cost in the cloud. Developed by a team of former Microsoft architects, developers and cybersecurity professionals, we make your journey to the cloud fast, smooth and efficient.

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